

NH Bureau of EMS-Bulletin

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Message from the Chief

The NH Bureau of EMS is adopting an alternative way of getting refresher training. The old methods are still in effect in which you can attend a NH approved refresher training program (RTP) – PLUS - the continuing education hours that the National Registry of EMT's requires or successfully pass the exam-in-lieu. Under the new method you can do the hours that the National Registry requires for RTP training by attending continuing education instead. It is still the same number of required hours, you just get them a different way.

The Bureau of EMS needs to make sure that our providers receive quality education, so any ConEd that is intended to be used for the refresher training component of recertification will have to meet certain requirements. The individual who is conducting a continuing education program intended for use for the refresher training component must maintain the following documentation:

- A list of educational objectives for the program,
- Credentials of the Instructor demonstrating the appropriate expertise to teach the subject,
- The number of hours of the program,
- The date, time and location of the program,
- A course roster with participants' names and signatures.

NH EMS Providers who recertify with the National Registry by all continuing education will have their education records subject to audit by the Bureau of EMS. At a minimum the EMS provider who is audited will need to produce a written certification for each hour listed in the refresher. We may further require that the provider submit the full documentation of individual courses as noted above. If that happens, the provider will need to contact the individual who conducted that program for that information.

BUYERS BEWARE – if you're going to use ConEd for the refresher component make sure you get it from a reputable and responsible source.

We hope this flexibility will be a positive move forward. This is new, though, so we expect a lot of questions. Go to <http://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/fstems/ems/documents/rtpchange.pdf> or please give us a call.

-Clay Odell

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Reporting Requirements in TEMSIS

There continues to be some confusion about what EMS events need to be entered in TEMSIS, so we wanted to review the important points.

- All NH services must report into TEMSIS, for any event that originated in NH, within 24 hours of the event.
- This means both transporting and non-transferring services.
- If your service uses another program to enter EMS Incident Reports, it is responsible for getting those records exported into TEMSIS within 24 hours of the event.
- Any time your EMS agency is asked to take action, emergent or non-emergent, you need to enter an incident report. This includes:
 - cancelled calls,
 - no patient found,
 - patient assists,
 - patient refusals,
 - treatment and transfer of care to another agency,
 - dead on scene (whether you treated them or not),
 - and, of course, transports.

This also includes all interfacility transfers and medical transports including dialysis runs, doctors office visits, return home transports, x-ray appointments, etc. Chair van transports are not required to be entered. Services who are not meeting this requirement will be subject to corrective action.

Advanced Life Support

2013 Protocol Preview

As reported in the past the proposed 2013 protocols are up online for review and commentary. Unfortunately there has been little activity on the blog. This is your opportunity to have input into the protocols, so take a look and send us some feedback. Protocol Blog: <http://www.nhoodle.nh.gov/protocols/>.

Patients on Ventilators

Recently we had an inquiry regarding a stable long-term vented patient who needed transport for a non-urgent procedure.

This falls into the PIIT level of interfacility transport but does not require a second attendant. "a PIIT paramedic may transport a stable long-term ventilated patient to or from a medical facility, long term care facility, and/or home, provided the patient is stable and the transport is not of an acute nature and the paramedic is familiar with the patient's ventilator and able to operate it." See this and all the advisories at: <http://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/fstems/ems/advlifesup/PIITCCTClinicalPracticeAdvisory.html>

Field Services Section

First Responder Deadline Approaching!

September 30th is the deadline for First Responder licensure. To date we still have over 60 (out of approx. 90) First Responders that still need to be licensed by this deadline. Mailing re-registration paperwork to the Registry or a license application the Division does not constitute a valid license; it still must be vetted, verified and entered. Do not wait until the last week and expect a one day turn around. We will do our best and need you to do yours.

EMS Management Program – November 2012

The second annual EMS management program will be held at the Academy on November 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 9th and 16th. The registration "form" is available on NHOODLE and we look forward to another diverse group of participants. The topics covered in the program are very pertinent to volunteer and career based EMS Services, the depth of topic coverage depends on the needs and questions from the participants. We look forward to your involvement – Register Now!

Education Section

Report on Audits

In September 2011 the Education Section began performing course audits on Division-approved EMS courses. Auditing efforts were originally concentrated on EMT-Basic Refresher Training Programs (RTP's) due to the recommendation of the Commissioner's ad-hoc committee on RTP's. Auditing efforts expanded to include all Division-approved EMS courses towards the end of the 2012 Refresher Season.

In the past 12 months the Division has approved a total of 328 initial and RTP classes, and has performed a total of 181 audits.

With the auditing process established and running efficiently, we have demonstrated the ability to ensure the integrity of the NH EMS Education system, while identifying and effecting remediation for those courses that are not meeting standards. Auditing efforts of these types of courses will continually assess and help to improve the quality of NH's EMS Education.

Trauma & Emergency Preparedness Section

The 2012 NH State Trauma Conference will be held on November 16, 2012 at the Mountainview Grand Resort in Whitefield. Save the date, and the brochure will be out very soon!

